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**JUN 06 2007**

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Application of :  
Brian Samuel BEAMAN et al. :  
Application No. 09/921,867 : DECISION ON PETITION  
Filed: August 3, 2001 : UNDER 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3)  
Attorney Docket No. YOR919930028US6 :

This is a decision on the renewed petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3), filed April 16, 2007, to accept an unintentionally delayed claim under 35 U.S.C. §120 for the benefit of prior-filed nonprovisional applications set forth in the concurrently filed amendment.

The petition is **DISMISSED**.

A petition for acceptance of a claim for late priority under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) is only applicable to those applications filed on or after November 29, 2000. Further, the petition is appropriate only after the expiration of the period specified in 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(ii). In addition, the petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) must be accompanied by:

- (1) the reference required by 35 U.S.C. § 120 and 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(i) of the prior-filed application, unless previously submitted;
- (2) the surcharge set forth in § 1.17(t); and
- (3) a statement that the entire delay between the date the claim was due under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(ii) and the date the claim was filed was unintentional. The Commissioner may require additional information where there is a question whether the delay was unintentional.

The petition does not comply with items (1) and (3).

37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(i) requires that any nonprovisional application claiming the benefit of one or more prior-filed copending nonprovisional applications must contain or be amended to contain a reference to each such prior-filed application, identifying it by application number (consisting of the series code and serial number) and indicating the relationship of the applications. The relationship between the applications is whether the subject application is a continuation,

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divisional, or continuation-in-part of a prior-filed nonprovisional application. An example of a proper benefit claim is: "This application is a continuation of Application No. 10/---, filed---." A benefit claim that merely states: "This application claims the benefit of Application No. 10/---, filed---," does not comply with 37 CFR 1.72(a)(2)(i) since the proper relationship, which includes the type of continuing application, is not stated. Also, the status of each nonprovisional parent application (if it is patented or abandoned) should also be indicated, following the filing date of the parent nonprovisional application. See MPEP Section 201.11, Rev. 2, May 2004, Reference to Prior Application. The amendment filed April 16, 2007 states that Serial Number 08/055,485 is a continuation-in-part of Serial Number 09/963,346; however, Office records indicate that no such claim was made in 08/055,485.

Before the petition under 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(3) can be granted, a renewed petition under 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(3) and a substitute amendment or an Application Data Sheet (complying with 37 CFR 1.121 and 37 CFR 1.76(b)(5)) which state the relationship of the prior-filed application to this application are required.

Additionally, the rule at 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(3) requires a statement that the entire delay between the date the claim was due under 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(2)(ii) and the date the claim was filed was unintentional. No such statement has been made.

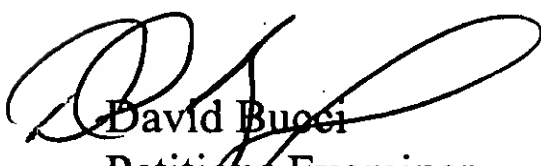
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Any questions concerning this matter may be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-7099.

  
David Buoci  
Petitions Examiner  
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